

TITLE: THE PURPOSE OF ART AND LITERATURE :

-FROM PLATO TO TOLSTOY [2009]

From Plato to Tolstoy, art has been alleged with charges that it plays with our emotions and peace of life. To specify, Plato concludes that poetry, being an artistic product, brings sentiments of anger and of pain in humans. Whereas, Tolstoy forwards that art is indeed a source of infection, but this is what decides the worth of it. Furthermore, he undermines the physical aspect of art - i.e., its form, which in truth decides the aesthetic value of art.

On the other hand, to Wordsworth poetry comprises emotions recollected in tranquillity. It should be perceived as dynamic rather than be considered a static remnant of past.

To him, the reflection of nature constitutes the purpose of drama with certain distinctive characters.

Hence, portrayal of emotions in art do not victimize but empowers the observers to extract meaning or values from it as per their capacity.

Original = ~416

Precis = 145